

Having thus defined the invention, the following is claimed:

1. A heat dissipation platform for output switches of an inverter power source of an electric arc welder, said platform comprising a conductive plate with first and second generally parallel surfaces and a plurality of parallel heat pipes located between said surfaces and extending in a given direction, said switches being mounted on said first surface and closely spaced from each

5

other in said given direction.

2. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 1 including a heat sink of high heat conductivity material with a thin mounting plate on said second surface and integral, parallel fins protruding from said mounting plate in a direction away from said second surface and extending in said given direction.

3. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 2 including fan mounted on said platform to blow air toward said second surface.

4. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 1 including fan mounted on said platform to blow air toward said second surface.

5. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 2 wherein one of said switches is mounted at a first location on said first surface and a second of said switches is mounted at a second location on said first surface and a first fan blowing air toward said second surface at said first location and a second fan blowing air toward said second surface at said second location.

5 6. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 4 wherein said parallel heat pipes are mounted in grooves in said first surface.

7. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 2 wherein said parallel heat pipes are mounted in grooves in said first surface.

10 8. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 1 wherein said parallel heat pipes are mounted in grooves in said first surface.

9. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 2 wherein said parallel heat pipes are mounted adjacent said first section.

10. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 1 wherein said parallel heat pipes are mounted adjacent said first section.

15        11. A heat dissipation platform for output switches of an inverter power source of an electric arc welder, said platform comprising a conductive plate with first and second generally parallel surfaces and a plurality of parallel heat pipes located at one of said surfaces and extending in a given direction, said switches being mounted on said first surface and closely spaced from each other in said given direction.

12. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 11 including a heat sink of high heat conductivity material with a thin mounting plate on said second surface and integral, parallel fins protruding from said mounting plate in a direction away from said second surface and extending in said given direction.

13. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 12 including fan mounted on said platform to blow air toward said second surface.

14. A heat dissipation platform as defined in claim 11 including fan mounted on said platform to blow air toward said second surface.